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Docket No.: 09/774,709

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
Daisaku HORIE	:	Confirmation Number: 3392
Application No.: 09/774,709	:	Group Art Unit: 2615
Filed: February 01, 2001	:	Examiner: Gevell V. Selby

For: IMAGE PROCESSING DEVICE, IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND IMAGE PROCESSING PROGRAM FOR JOINING A PLURALITY OF DIVIDED IMAGES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee.

**REQUEST TO CONSIDER REFERENCES AFTER CLOSE OF PROSECUTION AND
BEFORE PAYMENT OF ISSUE FEE**

The undersigned hereby requests consideration and entry of this Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying references under 37 CFR 1.97(d).

Please charge the processing fee under 1.17(p) of \$180.00 to Deposit Account 500417.

CERTIFICATION PARAGRAPH

The undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a

counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement as described in 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

Each reference was cited in a corresponding foreign application office action and its relevance discussed therein. A copy of the office action, together with an English language version thereof, is attached for the Examiner's information.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

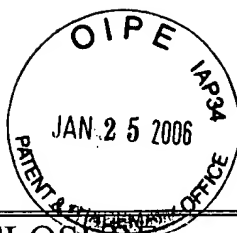


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**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277
as our correspondence address.**



SHEET 1 OF 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
CITATION IN AN
APPLICATION

(PTO-1449)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
044239-0076SERIAL NO.
09/774,709APPLICANT
Daisaku HORIEFILING DATE
February 01, 2001GROUP
2615

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Codes-Number 4-Kind Codes (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation Yes No
		JP 9-321972 A	12-12-1997	CANON INC		JAPAN (w/English Abstract)
		JP 9-322061 A	12-12-1997	CANON INC		JAPAN (w/English Abstract)

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.